



# California Fair Political Practices Commission

May 9, 1989

Gerald J. Geerlings  
County Counsel  
3525 Tenth Street, Suite 300  
Riverside, CA 95201-3674

Re: Your Request for Information  
Our File No. G-89-279

Dear Mr. Geerlings,

This is in response to your request for copies of advice letters related to the subject of the appointment of a Vice-President of a local engineering firm to the county planning commission. I have enclosed copies of three advice letters which have dealt with similar situations. The Levinger Advice Letter, No. I-88-328, in particular, deals with an architect appointed to the Los Gatos Planning Commission.

I trust the letters provide you with the guidance you have requested. If you have any other questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (916) 322-5901.

Very truly yours,

*Jeevan S. Ahuja*  
Jeevan Ahuja  
Counsel, Legal Division

JA:aa

Enclosures

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April 26, 1989

John H. Larson, Chairman  
Fair Political Practices Commission  
428 "J" Street, Suite 800  
Sacramento, CA 95804-0807

Re: Advice Summaries - Conflict of Interest

Dear John:


Following up on our discussion at the Civil Law Conference, please be advised that consideration is being given to appointing a Vice-President of a large local engineering firm to be a member of the County Planning Commission. The firm represents a number of developers and property owners on land use matters of all nature before the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors.

Without submitting the specific matter to you for an actual opinion, I would appreciate it if you could send to me copies of any past advice summaries that have been written that involve similar situations, or any other writings that relate to the subject. The primary questions would be:

1. Is there any inherent conflict that would prevent such an appointment?
2. If there is no inherent conflict that prevents appointment, on what matters would the person have to disqualify himself from hearing as a Planning Commissioner?

Thank you for your help on this matter; I appreciate it very much.

Best regards,

  
Gerald J. Geerlings  
County Counsel

GJG:sp

6/1/89

M-89-280

From: Kevin

CALLER: Tom McDonald

FOR: 415-951-1100

DATE: 4-13-89

QUESTION: Company Hires lobbying firm. Firm lobbies, receives payment from company, and the relationship is terminated. Association, of which company is a member, decides to reimburse company. Are association's payments reportable?

ANSWER: If there was no prior arrangement for the association to pay company, and no communication between firm and association, the association's payment to company need not be reported.

FILE REFERENCE: